

# The Primitive Republican.

F. G. BALDWIN.

ERROR MAY BE SAFELY TOLERATED, WHEN TRUTH IS LEFT FREE TO COMBAT IT.—Jefferson.

Editor & Proprietor.

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KIRKSEY, SHEPARD & BRAY, Wholesale and Retail Grocers, 22 & 24 Commerce St., corner of St. Michael, MOBILE.

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THE Undersigned having purchased of James B. Gray, his entire stock of Goods comprising a general assortment of Dry Goods, Hardware, Crockery &c. &c. would respectfully solicit the patronage of his friends. J. F. GAY.

HAVING sold my stock of Dry Goods &c. to Mr. J. F. Gay, I would respectfully solicit for him a continuance of the patronage so liberally bestowed on myself. All persons indebted to Decherd & Gray, or myself, either by note or account will please settle by the first of March, as indulgence cannot be given beyond that time. J. B. GRAY. Columbus, Jan. 8th, 1851. 38-ly

## From the Weekly Universe. ORIGINAL HOMER'S ILLIAD.

### PREFACE.

The pith and marrow of many books might be included in a nut-shell. A vast deal of time may be saved by reading only those works which contain the essence of the subject they treat upon. A person may thus become an accomplished, though not a profound scholar. The following may assist in explaining:—“A king in a certain part of India possessed such a voluminous library that a thousand camels were necessary for its transport, and a hundred Brahmins had to be paid for their care. The king, feeling no inclination to wade through all this mass of learning himself, ordered his hundred well-fed librarians to prepare him with an abstract of his books for his private use. They set to work, and in twenty years completed a nice little Encyclopedia, which might be carried by thirty camels. But the monarch found it still too large, and had not patience even to read the preface. The indefatigable Brahmins began therefore afresh, and reduced the thirty camels' load so that a single ass could march away with it in comfort; but the king's dislike to reading had increased with age, and a farther compression was demanded. At last his secretary brought him a palm leaf, on which was written:—“The quintessence of all science consists in the word perhaps.”

“Three expressions contain the history of mankind—They were born, they suffered, and they died.”

“Love only what is good, and practice what you love.”

“Believe only what is true, but do not speak all you believe.”

The monarch was right. The only judicious rule for acquiring knowledge is this. After mastering the kind necessary for individual profusion, we next seek general knowledge—for he that would fashion every subject, would find his life exhausted before he completed a tithe of his toil. The present work is in accordance with this principle.

## THE ILLIAD.

### CHAPTER I.

Homer, the Greek Poet, lived about 1015 years B. C., nearly 165 years after the taking of Troy by the Greeks.

Pope the celebrated English Poet, finished his translation of this poem A. D. 1720. The chief subject of Homer's Illiad, is the contention of Achilles and Agamemnon, two Grecian chiefs, during the Trojan war. This quarrel took place in the tenth year of the siege, consequently 1183 years B. C. The war began 1193 years B. C., in consequence of Paris, the son of Priam, King of Troy, running away with Helen the wife of Menelaus, the King of Sparta, a Grecian; this was during the first universal Monarchy, namely the Assyrian.

The contention between Achilles and Agamemnon arose after the Greeks had taken the city of Lyrnesses, from the Trojans, when the booty was divided between the conquerors. By this division Chryseis fell to the lot of Agamemnon, and Briseis to that of Achilles. These two captives were the cause of their dispute; Chryseis being restored to her father; Agamemnon resolved to deprive Achilles of Briseis, which so much enraged Achilles, that he resolved to forsake the field of battle. He did so, and in consequence of the absence of this brave general, the Greeks met with a temporary defeat. Agamemnon was the Commander-in-chief of the Grecian forces that went against Troy; and Achilles was his best general, and the bravest of all the Greeks in the Trojan war. Clytemnestra was the wife of Agamemnon.

Hector, was the son of Priam, and brother of Paris, who was the cause of the Trojan war; he was the most valiant of all the Trojans. His wife's name was Andromache.

The plan of the Illiad is formed upon anger, and its ill effects. The poem commences with the change of Achilles from a calm to a passionate temper;—then follow the effects of his passion and revenge, and all the illustrious deaths it was the cause of; and afterwards is related the return of Achilles to battle to revenge the death of his friend Patroclus—his satisfaction in killing Hector—and the return of Achilles to his calmness of temper. There is of course much poetical fiction introduced in this epic poem.

Agamemnon and Menelaus were, according to Homer, the sons of Atreus; they, like the rest of the Grecian princes, solicited the marriage of Helen, the daughter of Tyndarus, King of Sparta, who at length married Menelaus, then ran off with Paris. It was to avenge the cause of Menelaus that all the Grecian princes took up arms against Hector and the Trojans. Homer gave the name of Atreides to Agamemnon and Menelaus, because they were the sons of Atreus.

Nestor, was a Grecian chief, who distinguished himself greatly, and was remarkable for his eloquence, address, wisdom, justice, and uncommon presence of mind. Homer displays his character as the most perfect of all heroes; and Agamemnon declared, that if he had ten generals like

Nestor, he should soon see the walls of Troy reduced to ashes.

Calchas, was the Grecian High Priest and Guide.

Tyndarus, King of Sparta, had four children, namely, Castor, Polux, Helen and Clytemnestra; when Menelaus married Helen, Tyndarus resigned the crown to him.

Ajax, was next to Achilles, the bravest of all the Greeks in the Trojan war; he engaged Hector, with whom at parting, he exchanged arms. There was also Ajax Telemachus who signalized himself.

Homer gave the name of Polides to Achilles and to Pyrrhus. There is scarcely any book in the Illiad more pleasing than the third. The description of the duel between Menelaus and Paris; and the retreat of Priam, who in the tenderness of a parent, withdraws from the sight of the duel, are very striking.

Homer has not represented Helen as quite an odious character—she is drawn by a great master with the finest stroke, as a frail but not an abandoned creature; she has perpetual struggles of virtue on the one side, and of softness, which overcame them on the other, the sense of her crime is perpetually afflicting her, and awakes upon every occasion.

Hector, the Trojan chief is drawn in a very amiable light. The love of his country was his principal passion, and the motive of all his actions. He had no other blemish than that he fought in an unjust cause, which Homer has been careful to tell us he would not have done, but for the affection he had for his parents and kindred, which incited him to do his utmost for their safety.

It is observable that Homer having so many Greeks to celebrate, makes them shine in their turns, and singly, in his several books, one succeeding in the absence of another; whereas Hector appears in every battle, the life and soul of his party.

Ulysses, was a King of the Island of Ithaca, son of Anticlea and Laertes; this brave Grecian greatly signalized himself against the Trojans. He was courted for his prudence and sagacity. His wife's name was Penelope.

Telemachus was the son of Ulysses. After the Trojan war, he went from Ithaca in search of his father.

Patroclus was the friend of Achilles, and one of the Grecian chiefs during the Trojan war. When Achilles quarrelled with Agamemnon, and in consequence retired from the field of battle—Patroclus did the same. The absence of these two great generals was the cause of the temporary overthrow of the Greeks. Nestor prevailed upon him to return to the war, and the Trojans were in consequence routed. He was, however, overpowered and killed by Hector, which circumstance rendered Achilles to the war, in order to revenge the death of his friend. The return of Achilles restored their former success to the Grecians, and they were in the end completely victorious over the Trojans. Hector was killed by Achilles.

Andromache was the son of Nestor, who resided at Pylus, the capital of his dominion. Andromache was the bold Grecian who first struck a valiant Trojan dead, in the first battle we read of in the Illiad. This is related in the fourth book. He was killed during the war by Menon.

Thetis, a Grecian officer, the most deformed and illiberal. He was fond of ridiculing his fellow officers, particularly Achilles and Ulysses. He was killed by the former.

Symonides, a Trojan prince, was killed by Ajax.

Menestheus, was a Grecian, who headed the Athenians in the Trojan war. Nereus, was also a Grecian chief.

The principal points in each book of the Illiad, are as follows:—

The first book relates the contention of Achilles and Agamemnon.

The second the trial of the armies and the catalogue of the forces.

The third book describes the duel of Menelaus and Paris, in which the latter was overcome.

The fourth relates the breach of the trace between the Greeks and the Trojans, and the first battle.

The fifth book displays the acts of Diomed, a brave Grecian; he was the son of Tydeus, and is known in parts of the Illiad by the name of Tydides.

The sixth book contains a description of the parting of Hector from Andromache, before he goes to battle; and the episode of Glaucus and Diomed.

Glaucus fought for the Trojans, but was friendly towards Diomed; he was killed by Ajax. The episode of Hector and Andromache must endear Hector to every reader. Astynax was their son.

The seventh book relates the single combat of Hector and Ajax.

The eighth book contains an account of the second battle, and the distress of the Greeks.

The ninth book relates that Nestor prevailed upon Agamemnon to send ambassadors to Achilles, in order to move him to a reconciliation. Ulysses and Ajax, accompanied by old Phoenix, were sent as ambassadors, but their overtures were rejected with rudeness by Achilles.

The tenth book contains a relation of the night adventures of Diomed and Ulysses.

The eleventh book describes the third battle, and the acts of Agamemnon, together with the return of Patroclus to the field of battle.

The twelfth book describes the battle at the Grecian walls.

The thirteenth book describes the fourth battle, in which Neptune assists the Greeks.

The fourteenth book describes the great distress of the Greeks; and that the Trojans were obliged to give way after this.

The fifteenth book relates the acts of Ajax, who repelled the Trojans.

The sixteenth book describes the fifth battle, and the acts and death of Patroclus.

The seventeenth book contains an account of the seventh battle, which was for the body of Patroclus. And the acts of Menelaus. The great Menelaus defended the body of Patroclus from the enemy.

The eighteenth book describes the grief of Achilles for the death of his friend; and the new armour made him by Vulcan; the noble shield of Achilles, &c.

The nineteenth book gives a description of the reconciliation of Achilles and Agamemnon, and of the restoration of Briseis to Achilles.

The twentieth book describes the acts of Achilles upon his return to the field against the Trojans, whom he pursues with great slaughter.

The twenty-first book contains an account of the battle in the river Scamander, between Achilles and the river god, which is rather extravagant.

The twenty-second book relates the death of Hector, who was killed by Achilles; and the grief and lamentations of his wife Andromache, at the event.

The twenty-third and twenty-fourth books contain the funeral of Patroclus; and the matters relating to Hector are undoubtedly expended to the grand catastrophe of the poem; for the story is completely finished with the death of that hero in the twenty-second book.

Æneas, was a Trojan prince, the son of Anchises. His wife's name was Creusa. Æneas believed with great valor in the Trojan war, in defence of his country, and came to an engagement with Diomed and Achilles; yet he lived at variance with Priam King of Troy. When Troy was in flames, he carried away upon his shoulders his father, Anchises, together with his son Ascanius, and left his wife to follow.

Antenor, was a Trojan prince, related to Priam. It was said that he kept up a secret correspondence with the Greeks, and chiefly with Menelaus and Ulysses. Antenor was also a Trojan prince, famed for the soundness of his counsels and his good intentions. Echeclus, was also a Trojan. Antiphos was a son of Priam, and was killed by Agamemnon in the Trojan war.

Lausus was a Grecian, and the companion of Ulysses. Euryphylus was also a Grecian, as well as Idomeneus. Idomeneus succeeded his father on the throne of Crete.

Very soon after the death of Hector, the Greeks took the city of Troy.

It was necessary that the prince in the Illiad should be choleric and quarrelsome, because Homer's object was to show the terrible effects of a quarrelsome disposition.

Homer's chief moral was to expose the ill effect of discord. This in the Illiad the subject suffers by the ill conduct of his prince; the chief of whom was Achilles.

Achilles was killed before Troy, by the hand of Paris, by the shot of an arrow in his heel, which was the only vulnerable part about him.

Paris was killed by Pyrrhus, son of Achilles.

Ajax slew himself, after he had a contest with Ulysses for the armor of Vulcan.

Helen, after the death of Paris, married Deiphobus his brother; but at length Menelaus her first husband received her again into his favor.

Agamemnon at his return, was barbarously murdered by Clytemnestra at the instigation of Cythemia, his wife.

Diomed, after the fall of Troy, was expelled his own country, and scarce escaped with his life from his wife Aëlia; but at last was received by Darius in Apulia, and shared his kingdom. It is uncertain how he died.

Nestor lived in peace with his children, in Pylus, his native country.

Ulysses also, after innumerable troubles by sea and land, at last returned in safety to Ithaca, which is the subject of Homer's Odyssey.

It seems desirable here to name a few of the Heavens gods, as some of them are introduced in the writings of Homer, and of other ancients.

The oldest of these false gods was Time, called also, Saturn. Jupiter, Neptune, Pluto, Juno, and Ceres, were his children. It is said that he had others, but that he devoted them, which is emblematical of Time destroying all things.

Jupiter was the father of gods and men, and had the sovereignty of heaven.

Neptune was god of the sea.

Pluto, was god of the infernal regions.

Juno was the Goddess of Kingdoms, Queen of the Gods and Riches—the sister and wife of Jupiter.

Ceres was the Goddess of Agriculture. Mercury was the Messenger of the Gods, son of Jupiter, God of Eloquence, and Patron of Commerce—he is drawn with wings on his feet, and a caduceus or wand, with two serpents about it, in his hand; and his last office was to usher souls into hell, of the Elysian Fields.

Mars was the God of War, Bellona the Goddess.

Minerva was the Goddess of Wisdom; called also, Pallas.

Apollo, the son of Jupiter, was the God of Poetry and Music, and thence is represented with a lyre in his hand, and a crown of laurels on his head. He is also God of the Sun, and called Phoebus. Mount Parnassus is the habitation of the Nine Muses, (daughters of Jupiter) and where Apollo resides.

Vulcan was the God who presided over fire, and was the patron of all artists who worked iron and metals.

Venus was the handsomest of all the Goddesses, and was called the Goddess of Love. She was the mother of Cupid; the God of Love. Her attendants were the three graces—Aglais, Thalia and Euphrosyne.

Hebe was the Goddess of Youth, and cup bearer to Jupiter.

The drink of the Gods was called nectar, and their food ambrosia.

The Distinguished Dend of 1850.

### BY URIAH H. JUDAH.

Such is mortal's fleeting breath, Such is life, and such is death.

They have fallen! Nay, not fallen in the estimation of their countrymen; for their memories will ever flourish in grateful remembrance—but their names have been stricken from the roll of living greatness, and the tomb, that allotted tenement of mortality has claimed its own.

Death, clad in his gloomy robes, has wandered in the midst of eloquence, of valor, of erudition, and of worth, spreading dismay around. Wherever he has roamed he has spread havoc. On the brow of talent he has stamped his signet, and powerless became the lips of eloquence; he grasped the hand of the warrior, and closed his ears to the sound of the drum and the tumult of battle.

His sword was in his hand, Still warm with recent fight; Ready that moment at command, Through rock and steel to smite.

They have fallen!—but not until Fame had enrolled their names high, very high in her Temple, so grand, so towering—the names of Taylor, Calhoun, Elmore, Prentiss, King, Mason, Osgood, Fuller and Jones.

Twelve short months ago, and Zachary Taylor stood before the world as the illustrious chief of a mighty nation, blessed with the love and reverence of millions of freemen, and in the tranquil enjoyment of every earthly bliss—a few more weeks a life away and become lost in the revolution of time, and all that is left of the President and Hero, his dust, moves on to the last resting place of mortality, in regal majesty, as in more than kingly splendor, for his mound is honored by the poor and the humble, and moistened by the tear of affection.

O! after all the toils of war, How blest the brave man lays him down! His bier is a triumphal car— His grave is glory and renown!

He has fallen! South Carolina weeps over the tomb of her most able champion, for the eloquent tongue of Calhoun will no longer fling the accents of beauty and sublimity to-day he reposes placidly amid the hallowed precincts of the earth, and no voice but that of God can rouse him.

Denton's loved a shining mark, for Elmore, the talented and distinguished, hath fallen at thy mandate.

Sergeant S. Prentiss has fallen! A brilliant light has been quenched, and the Pleader has carried his cause up to that Tribunal from which there can be no appeal.

And, could'st thou not spare for a little longer, one whose age is as nothing before the great Jehovah? Why hint the point of her eloquent pen, and why hush the kindly throbbings of her noble heart? In thy roamin' could'st thou not find some humbler victim of thy wrath, than Margaret Fuller? Ah! thou must fulfil thy mission, ordained by Providence, until the stars shall grow dim by age, and you glorious immurity of day sets in eternal darkness!

Go then and pluck the bloom from the rose in its sweetest and in its beauty, and savor to the air its richest perfume; strike down manhood as he lurches his frail bark on the eventful waters of life; and when the great warrior returns from the ground of his exploits covered with glory, conquer him, oh spoiler, and hold him thy prisoner!

The hero, the statesman, his journey is done, All his cares are now over, his last battle won; Now sweetly he rests from his sorrows and fears And leaves a proud nation in sadness and tears.

They have fallen! Great intellect or renown, or elevated station could not save them from the worm; for it was written “dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.” Man, no matter how brilliant his career, or how dazzlingly splendid his talents, must, in process of time, be encircled within the limits of a little spot of earth:

“The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power, Await alike the inevitable hour— The paths of glory lead but to the grave.”

Sleep on, noble dead of 1850! Sleep on in your last rest, and mingle your dust with the free soil of Columbia, in the hallowed graves where Americans have laid you—Sleep on, while in the inmost recesses of our hearts, your names are cherished!

### The Love of Home.

It is only shallow minded pretenders who ever make the humblest origin matter of personal reproach. Talent and scoffing at the humble condition of early life affect nobody in this country but those who are foolish enough to indulge in them, and they are equally sufficiently punished by the rebuke. A true man is not ashamed of his early condition.

It did not happen to me to be born in a log cabin, but my elder brothers and sisters were born in a log cabin, raised amongst the snowdrifts of New Hampshire, at a period so early as that when the smoke first arose from its rude chimney, and curled over the frozen hills, there was no similar evidence of a white man's habitation between it and the settlements on the rivers of Canada. Its remains still exist and I

pay it an annual visit. I carry my children to it to teach them the hardships endured by the generations which have gone before them. I love to dwell on tender recollections and the narrations and incidents, which mingle with all I know of their primitive family abode. I weep to think that none of those who inhabited it are now among the living; and if I am ever ashamed of it, or if I ever fail in affection or veneration for him who raised it and defended it against savage violence and destruction, cherished all domestic virtues beneath its roof, and through the fire and blood of seven years' revolutionary war, shrunk from no toil, no sacrifices to serve his country; and to raise his children to a condition better than his own, my my name and the name of my posterity be blotted out forever from the memory of mankind.—Daniel Webster.

WASHINGTON, January 7 1851.

DEAR SIR: We have just read a highly interesting letter from Hon. Wm. L. Sharkey to yourself, upon the pending questions of the day, which we think you ought not to withhold from the public, inasmuch as it contains highly patriotic views, ably and eloquently expressed, a dissemination of which, we are satisfied, will be productive of much good at the present moment. We hope you will feel authorized to allow its early publication.

We have the honor to be, &c., &c., WILLIE P. MANGUM, H. S. FOOTE.

Hon. LAKE LEA, Commissioner, &c.

WASHINGTON, January 8, 1851.

GENTLEMEN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of yesterday, requesting me to authorize the publication of a letter addressed to me by the Hon. Wm. L. Sharkey, of Mississippi. It is evident that the letter was not written with a view to publication; but as it relates entirely to matters of general interest, and as I concur with you in the hope that its publication at this time will be productive of public good, I feel warranted in complying with your request. The letter is accordingly placed at your disposal.

Very respectfully, LAKE LEA.

Hon. W. P. MANGUM and Hon. H. S. FOOTE.

JACKSON, December 24, 1850.

DEAR SIR: It affords me pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your esteemed favor of the 7th inst. A reply would have been forwarded at an earlier day, but for a temporary absence. You express a desire to know the true state of public sentiment in Mississippi. I can only give you my opinion, formed from the best lights before me. That the Union party has a very large majority at present is, I think, beyond dispute. Indeed, this is conceded by many of the opposite party; but they expect an accession of strength from northern agitation and the movements elsewhere. Public opinion was a time very much unsettled; but the excitement is now yielding to a disposition for quiet acquiescence in the recent compromise measures passed by Congress. The result of Georgia election had a considerable influence in bringing about this state of things. Notwithstanding the general excitement which for a time prevailed, public opinion was not truly reflected by the legislature in its resistance measures. That body was composed of ultra materials. The members had not been elected with a view to the exciting questions then before the country; and as public opinion was not definitely known, a few leading spirits wielded the action of the body to suit their own views. It is very certain that some of the members from the central and southern portions of the State did not truly represent the wishes of their constituents; and this was doubtless the case with some of the members from the northern part of the State. The session was characterized by a marked determination to lead public opinion. The Governor, you know, had taken a high stand, and of course desired to be sustained; and he was aided by the presence and influence of many prominent gentlemen from different parts of the State, who seemed, strangely enough, to have happened to be here at that particular time. Two circumstances contribute very greatly to swell the number of discontents. In the first place, the democratic party has, as you know, a large majority in the State. Party leaders, with few exceptions, have taken a stand in favor of resistance, and they are sustained by the party press, with only a few exceptions. Under such circumstances, it is difficult for many who have been in the habit of uniting with their party to break off, though many have honorably done so. In the next place, the true issue is kept out of view. Disunion is not presented as the necessary end of resistance. In this way many who are not satisfied with the admission of California are induced to unite with the resistance party; and it is true that there are but few, very few, who are entirely satisfied with all the measures of the adjustment. Thus stands public opinion now; and if things continue in their present state, I have no doubt our convention will be a conservative body, probably by an overwhelming majority. But, in view of the existing feeling, it is easy to foresee that this prospect might be changed entirely by the action of the present session of Congress. We acquiesce in the admission of California because we believe the constitution was not violated, and not because full justice was done the South. This I believe, is a very general sentiment. The fugitive slave bill we had a constitutional right to demand; this has been conceded us, and the Wilmot proviso was not attached to the territorial governments. In this,